CONNECTICUT WEEKLY



CONNECTICUT GROWN: PRESERVING ITS INTEGRITY AND RELIABILITY FOR SUCCESS

Bruce A. Sherman, DVM, MPH, Director, Bureau of Regulation and Inspection

The Connecticut Grown Program was developed in 1986, when the now-familiar green and blue logo was created to identify agricultural products grown in the state.

With the enthusiastic support of both Governor Dannel P. Malloy and the state legislature, the Connecticut Grown Program has expanded into a multifaceted campaign that successfully promotes these products through a diverse array of avenues. The program's success has not only benefited Connecticut producers and consumers but also the state's economy.

Because of the state investment in creating a valued brand in Connecticut Grown products, renewed efforts are now under way to maintain and increase the integrity of that brand by verifying that products sold as such really are Connecticut Grown.

"Connecticut Grown" means produce and other farm products that have a traceable point of origin within Connecticut

The phrases "Connecticut Grown" and "CT Grown" and the associated logo have become positive factors for many consumers when making purchasing decisions. The full potential for the continued success of the Connecticut Grown promotional campaign—the goal of which is to substantially increase the yearly total sales of agricultural products produced within the state—can only be realized by sustaining a high level of confidence in the integrity and reliability of the meaning of "Connecticut Grown."

This can only be accomplished by consistent, truthful, and reliable use of the term "Connecticut Grown," whether in labeling or advertising, so that it is universally associated with agricultural products that are actually grown or produced in Connecticut.

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture...will be expanding its inspection and enforcement... of the Connecticut Grown logo and label

Integrity in labeling and advertising products produced within the state as such has an obvious importance to consumers, but often less obvious is its importance to Connecticut producers in order to uphold their confidence in the Connecticut Grown Program.

Consequently, truth in labeling and advertising that accurately denotes products grown or produced in the state is extremely important in maintaining and bolstering consumer confidence. Producers who ethically and truthfully label and advertise products as "Connecticut Grown" have an expectation, as they should, of adequate protection from unfair sales competition from those who seek a competitive sales advantage by falsely or inappropriately using "Connecticut Grown" in labeling and advertising.

Furthermore, the Connecticut Grown promotional campaign includes a number of programs that provide grants and incentives funded by state taxpayer dollars. Connecticut residents and legislators have an expectation that state and federal funding such as that for Connecticut Grown promotional activities and incentives will be used as directed by statute.

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture is charged with the responsibility to provide adequate regulatory oversight to assure compliance with applicable laws and regulations associated with the various components of the Connecticut Grown Program and to assure that grants and incentives are used strictly for the sales promotion of products for which the funds were intended.

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WHOLESALE LETTUCE U.S. GROWN

	Low	High
BOST BIBB,24,NJ	14.00	16.00
GREEN LF,10lb,CA	18.00	18.00
MESCLUN,3lb,CA	6.00	7.00
OAK LF,2.2lb,CA	10.00	12.00
RED LF,24,NJ	14.00	15.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA, HOG AUCTION

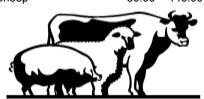
May 27, 2013
Sold by actual weights; prices quoted by hundred wt.
49-54
220lbs-300lbs 68.00-71.00
300lbs-400lbs 67.00-71.00
45-49
220lbs-300lbs 64.00-67.00
300lbs-400lbs 55.00-59.00
Sows US1-3
300lbs-500lbs 52.50-54.00
500lbs-700lbs 54.00-57.00
Boars
300lbs-700lbs 15.00-16.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, May 27, 2013

Live animals brought the following ave. prices per cwt.

Live animals brought the lo	llowing ave. pr	ices per cw
Bob Calves:	Low	High
45-60 lbs.	55.00	62.00
61-75 lbs.	85.00	90.00
76-90 lbs.	95.00	100.00
91-105 lbs.	112.50	125.00
106 lbs. & up	130.00	135.00
Farm Calves	140.00	210.00
Starter Calves	58.00	60.00
Veal Calves	80.00	150.00
Open Heifers	76.00	85.00
Beef Steers	n/a	n/a
Beef Heifers	82.00	85.00
Feeder Steers	79.00	130.00
Stock Bulls	82.00	90.00
Beef Bulls	88.50	115.00
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	n/a	n/a
Butcher Hogs	n/a	n/a
Goats each	45.00	200.00
Kid Goats	20.00	105.00
Canners	Up to	88.50
Cutters	89.00	90.50
Utility Grade Cows	91.50	94.00
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Rabbits each	5.00	43.00
Chickens each	4.00	35.00
Ducks each	5.00	20.00
Feeder Pigs	70.00	125.00
Lambs	50.00	190.00
Sheep	50.00	140.00



WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES NEW ENGLAND GROWN

(Boston Terminal and wholesale grower prices)

	Low	High
BEAN SPRTS,12/12oz	13.00	13.00
FIDDLEHDS,10lb	42.00	42.00
RHUBARB,10lb	35.00	35.00
SPINACH,flat,4lb	12.00	12.00
TOMATO,cherry,5lb	14.00	14.00
TOMATO,gnhs,loose,25lb	20.00	21.00

SHIPPED IN

APRICOT,72ct,CA	25.00	30.00
ASPARAGUS,28lb,NJ	64.00	64.00
BEETS,12s,NJ	16.00	18.00
BLUEBRRY,12/1pt,GA	34.00	36.00
BOK CHOY,50lb,NJ	15.00	16.00
CHERRIES,10rw,CA	38.00	40.00
COLLARD,bu,NJ	14.00	14.00
CORN,5dz,FL	15.00	16.00
DANDELION,12s,NJ	15.00	16.00
ENDIVE,1.3bu NJ	14.00	16.00
ESCAROLE,24s,NJ	14.00	18.00
LETTUCE,grn If,24ct,NJ	14.00	14.00
NAPPA,1%bu,NJ	15.00	15.00
PEACHES,loose,25lb,CA	28.00	30.00
RADISHES,24s,NJ	12.00	13.00





HARTFORD REGIONAL MARKET

May 18, 2013

Wholesale, lease tenants and/or farmers' market vendors

	Low	High
BEDDING PLNT,48/flat	7.50	10.00
HERB PLNT,4"pot	3.00	2/5.00
HANGING BSKT,10"	7.00	10.00
HANGING BSKT,mix,10"	10.00	12.00
HANGING BSKT,mix,12"	15.00	25.00
PATIO TOMATO	5.00	10.00
SCNTD GERANIUM,6"pot	6.00	6.00
SUCCULENTS,4"pot	3/10.00	3/10.00
VEG PLNTS,48/flat	10.00	10.00

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

Per doz., wholesale Grade A brown in cartons (delivered)

XTRA LARGE	1.68-1.80
LARGE	1.62-1.74
MEDIUM	1.24-1.36
SMALL	.91-1.01

NEW HOLLAND LIVESTOCK AUCT. AND VA CATTLE SUMMARY

May 23, 2013

Bulk/ High/ Low Dressing

SLAUGHTER COWS:

breakers 75-80% lean

81.00-84.00 85.00-86.00 75.50-80.50

boners 80-85% lean

80.00-83.00 84.00-84.50 75.00-79.50

lean 88-90% lean

75.00-79.50 82.50-82.50 65.00-74.50

CALVES: graded bull

No.1 98-128lbs 167.00-180.00 No 2 112-128lbs 140.00-147.00 No 3 80-130lbs 100.00-117.00

SLAUGHTER BULLS yield gr 1

High dressing 1475-2090lbs100.00-104.00 Avg.dressing 925-2060lbs 94.00-98.50 Low dressing 975-2050lbs 89.00-93.00

SLAUGHTER HEIFERS high

Ch2-3 1100-1300lbs 117.00-120.00 Sel 1-3 1050-1400lbs 111.50-116.50

SLAUGHTER STEERS-

Ch/prm2-4 1250-1650lbs 125.00-128.00 Ch2-3 1270-1600lbs 122.00-124.75 Sel 1-3 1250-1650lbs 118.00-121.50

SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS

Ch/prm3-4 1450-1600lbs 114.00-118.00 Ch 2-3 1550-1650lbs 108.00-112.00 Sel 1-3 1400-1650lbs 103.00-107.50

SLAUGHTER LAMBS: ch/pr 2-3

40-60lbs 167.00-200.00 60-80lbs 168.00-180.00 80-110lbs 162.00-168.00

SLAUGHTER EWES: good 2-3: md flesh

100-120lbs 56.00-57.00 200-210lbs 48.00-52.00 160-180lbs 54.00-66.00 Bucks 170-200lbs 42.00-66.00 200-230lbs 40.00-48.00 SLAUGHTER GOATS:Sel.1, by head, est. wt. 40-60lbs 140.00-150.00 60-80lbs 132.00-172.00 90-110lbs 170.00-195.00 110-120lbs 165.00-197.00

Nannies/Does: 80-125lbs 142.00-172.00 130-150lbs 135.00-185.00

Bucks/Billies: 130-150lbs 210.00-215.00

150-200lbs 232.00-285.00

NORTHEAST EGG PRICES USDA

Per doz., USDA Grade A/Grade A white (volume buyers)

XTRA LARGE	1.27-1.31
LARGE	1.25-1.29
MEDIUM	1.05-1.08

ADVERTISEMENTS

FOR SALE

- 1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut's first independent NATIONWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency. Christmas tree growers, beekeepers, sheepbreeders, organic farmers and all others, call us for all your insurance needs. 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com.
- 2-R. Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com.
- 3-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. Sonpal's Power Fence 860-491-2290.
- 4-R. Packaging for egg sales. New egg cartons, flats, egg cases, 30 doz and 15 doz. Polinsky Farm 860-376-2227.
- 5-R. Nationwide Agribusiness Insurance Program, endorsed by the CT Farm Bureau, save up to 23% on your farm insurance and get better protection. References available from satisfied farmers. Call Marci today at 203-444-6553.
- 39-R Round Hay Bales, stored inside. Net wrapped $1^{\rm st}$ cut, few $2^{\rm nd}$. Call 203-530-4953.
- 49-R. Completely self contained Apple Fritter and Donut making building mounted on heavy duty 4 wheel running gear trailer. Contains everything you need to start making and selling apple/fruit fritters and donuts: from fryer to cash register. Includes trays, oven, sinks, refrigerator, racks, hot water heater and utensils. Simply plug into 220V power or generator and attach a garden hose. Presently located in South Glastonbury. Pictures available upon request. George 860-918-5442 or email george.m.purtill@snet.net.
- 52-R. Used Tobacco netting. Great for covering berry bushes. 860 -683-0266.
- 60. Dutch variety greenhouse grown tomatoes. Smell delicious & taste even better. Grown completely chemically free without the use of pesticides or fungicides. Perfect addition to your farmers market or farm stand table until your own crop is ready. Available starting in June. Multiple grade-outs available. First come first served. Contact Ben March by email: marchfarms@marchfarms.com or (203) 437-0453.
- 62-R. Tomato stakes, trailer decks, fence boards, custom cut lumber, Staehly Products Co. LLC. 860-873-9774.
- 63-R. Corn Silage for sale-\$65/ton at farm. Wallingford 203-265-5844.
- 64-R. Two Wooden Kicker Wagons 8' by 16', Excellent 8 ton gears. Always Under Cover, \$1,400 and \$1,600 OBO. 203-265-4588.
- 66-R. Cotoneaster dammeri Bearberry Cotoneaster. Ground hugging, fast growing, glossy evergreen 1" leaf, deer don't eat it, sun or shade, tolerates below O degrees F. Once established no weeds, great for side hills or anywhere, loves poor loamy or even gravelly soil, hates heavy peaty soil. Gotta be the best of all low, spreading groundcovers. 3 1/4" pot-\$3.75, 100 plus, less 10%. Liriope spicata, Creeping Lilyturf, 1/4" blade, 12"-15" with blue spikes, \$3.75. Wheeler Farm, 171 Bartlett St., Portland, CT 06480, 860-342-2374. Call first.
- 67. Two-24T Balers, One field ready, one complete for parts. Asking \$1,600. Call after 5 PM at 860-349-1513.

MISCELLANEOUS

6-R. Farm/Land Specializing in land, farms, and all types of Real Estate. Established Broker with a lifetime of agricultural experience and 40 years of finance. Representing both Buyers and Sellers. Call Clint Charter of Wallace-Tustin Realty (860) 644-5667.

The Connecticut Week Agricultural Report offers affordable classified advertisements for your farm-related needs. See Page 4 for details and rates, or call Jane Slupecki at 860-713-2588 for more information.

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The expenditure of certain federal funds is also linked to the integrity of Connecticut Grown label. The Farmers' Market Nutrition Program provides USDA funding for qualifying state residents and families to purchase products grown and produced in Connecticut only and sold at certified farmers' markets.

Inspections will be conducted on a random basis and also in response to complaints

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture, through its Bureau of Regulation and Inspection, will be expanding its inspection and enforcement activities with respect to the use of the Connecticut Grown logo and label in the sales and advertising of agricultural products.

Farmers' markets, retail stores, and other sales and advertising venues will be subject to this enhanced scrutiny. Unannounced inspections will be conducted on a random basis and also in response to complaints.

The deliberate misuse of the Connecticut Grown logo and false labeling and advertising of agricultural products as "Connecticut Grown" in order to gain a competitive sales advantage does not appear to be a widespread problem. However, in those instances that the deceptive practice does occur, significant amounts of product(s) may be involved and those responsible should be aware that they will be subject to one or more of a range of significant penalties as authorized for violating Connecticut laws.

Connecticut law is very clear with respect to the intended meaning of the term "Connecticut Grown" and the associated logo and how both are to be used in advertising and the sale of agricultural products.

Connecticut General Statutes Section 22-38 (C.G.S. §22-38), Advertising of Connecticut-Grown Farm Products / Advertising of Locally-Grown Farm Products, not only mandates the parameters for the use of the term "Connecticut Grown," but also for the terms "native," "native grown," "local," or "locally grown" in advertising farm products.

"Farm products" means products resulting from the practice of agriculture or farming, as defined in <u>C.G.S. §1-1</u> and "Connecticut Grown" means produce and other farm products that have a traceable point of origin within Connecticut.

With respect to advertising, C.G.S. §22-38 states that only farm products grown or produced in Connecticut shall be advertised or sold in Connecticut as "Connecticut Grown." Farm products grown or produced in Connecticut may be advertised or sold in Connecticut as "native," "native grown," "local," or "locally grown."

Farm products grown or produced within a 10-mile radius of the point of sale for such farm products may be advertised or sold in Connecticut as "native", "native grown," "local," or "locally grown."

The purpose of the 10-mile radius provision is to provide for Connecticut producers to use the terms "local" and "native" when labeling or advertising their products that may be grown or produced in fields or facilities located a short distance into an adjacent state.

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It is noteworthy that this 10-mile radius provision does not apply to the use of "Connecticut Grown."

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture has statutory authority to enforce both the above-mentioned labeling and advertising requirements, and, in doing so, to issue penalties of varying degrees for violations of those requirements.

Pursuant to C.G.S. §22-38, any person, firm, partnership, or corporation advertising farm products as "native," "native grown," "local," "locally grown," or "Connecticut Grown" shall be required to furnish written proof within 10 days of the sale of such products that such products were grown or produced in Connecticut or within a 10-mile radius of the point of sale, as applicable, if requested to do so by the Commissioner of Agriculture or said commissioner's designee.

Any person who violates any provision of this section shall be fined not more than \$25.00 for each product label in violation of this section.

Furthermore, in the case of repeated violations, the Connecticut Department of Agriculture has the authority, pursuant to <u>C.G.S.</u> §22-7, *Administrative Civil Penalties*, to issue civil penalties in the amount of up to \$2,500.00 for each violation.

Additionally, civil penalties can be issued in the amount of \$250.00 for each day during which such violation continues after receipt of a final order of the commissioner assessing the civil penalty for such violation.

The <u>Connecticut Unfair Trade Practices Act</u> (CUTPA) is an additional means of legal enforcement of false advertising and labeling products as Connecticut Grown.

Through the provisions of CUTPA, the Department of Consumer Protection and/or The Office of the Attorney General have the authority to legally pursue persons or firms that have used unfair or deceptive trade practices with consumers.

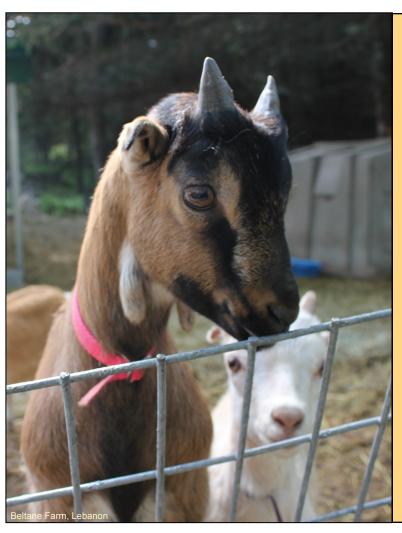
As a case in point, in 2005, a Connecticut distribution firm for out-of-state eggs agreed to pay the state \$70,075.00 for falsely claiming, by using the Connecticut Grown logo on its egg cartons, that eggs it sold were produced in Connecticut, and for using the word "farm" in its trade name.

In a press release announcing the settlement, then Attorney General Richard Blumenthal stated, "The CT Grown label must mean that crops come from Connecticut soil, eggs from Connecticut chickens, and milk from Connecticut cows, not just that they are sold in Connecticut. Stretching the label is a disservice to our hard working farmers, and consumers."

In summary, we hope that this article will serve as a notification that the Connecticut Department of Agriculture places a high importance on public confidence in the integrity of the Connecticut Grown label both in sales and advertising.

In that regard, the Bureau of Regulation and Inspection will be expanding enforcement efforts by conducting random inspections at farmers' markets and other sales venues, responding to complaints of false product labeling and advertising, and issuing penalties for violations when deemed appropriate.

For more information about these efforts, call 860-713-2508.



Advertising Rates: Fifteen or fewer words: \$3.75 per insertion. More than 15 words: 25 cents per word per insertion. (Initial letters, hyphenated words, phone numbers, and addresses are counted separately.) Print or type copy. Advertisements accepted on a first-come, first-served basis; publication on a specific date cannot be guaranteed. Ads with payment must be received by

noon the Friday before a publication date to be considered for insertion in that issue. Only ads of an agricultural nature with a Connecticut phone number will be accepted. Remittance with copy required. Make check or money order payable to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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The Connecticut Weekly Agricultural Report (ISSN: 1059-8723, USPS 129-340) is published weekly by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, 165 Capitol Ave., Hartford, CT 06106, except for the weeks of Thanksgiving and Christmas, two other weeks each year, and when the Governor closes state offices. Print subscriptions are \$40.00 for two years. Periodicals postage paid at Hartford, CT.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, 165 Capitol Ave., Hartford, CT 06106.

Print subscriptions expire Dec. 31, 2013.

VOL. XCIII No. 20 May 29, 2013